

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-33 Building Date: ca. 1899

Building Name: Buck-Catterton House

Location: 4211 Farragut Street, Hyattsville, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The Buck-Catterton House is a two-and-one-half story, frame cross gable dwelling with Queen Anne decorative features. The main block is three bays by four bays, with horizontal board siding and a wrap-around porch. The front gable is adorned with several horizontal rows of diamond shaped decorative wood shingles. The off-center door has a six-light transom, and four-pane sidelights. The porch extends around to the west elevation; it is supported by plain square posts, and there is a railing of plain square balusters. Beneath the second story window is a horizontal band of molding with narrow vertical slats; this band continues around all elevations. Windows are generally 2/2 double hung sash, without shutters. Exposed rafter ends punctuate the overhanging eaves. All gables exhibit the diamond horizontal decorative siding.

Significance

The Buck-Catterton house is a good example of Queen Anne transitional style dwelling. It stands on a corner lot, in part of Johnson and Wine's First Addition to Hyattsville, platted in 1882. This section of Hyattsville extended the boundaries of this still-new suburban town which was becoming a desirable place of residence for commuters to the Capital city. The subject house was built by Alonzo M. Buck circa 1899, on an unimproved lot which he purchased in 1897. It exhibits characteristic variations in shape and distinctive patterns in decorative detail, and is distinguished also by its prominent location on a corner lot. In this century, the Buck-Catterton House was used for many years as a roominghouse. Most of the original interior details remain, such as the chamfered newel posts and pocket doors. The house is now being reconverted to single-family use and the owners plan a complete rehabilitation.

Acreage: 9,143 square feet

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Buck House

and/or common Catterton House

## 2. Location

street & number 4211 Farragut Street    not for publicationcity, town Hyattsville    vicinity of    congressional district 5state Maryland    county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>X</u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational	<u>X</u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment	<u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>X</u> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Albert Catterton

street &amp; number 4211 Farragut Street telephone no.: 699-5257

city, town    state and zip code   

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6458

street &amp; number Main Street folio 132

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md. 20772

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date    federal    state    county    local   depository for survey records   city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. P.G.#68-33

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Buck-Catterton House is a two-and-one-half story, frame cross gable dwelling with Queen Anne decorative features. It stands on a corner lot in the residential district of Hyattsville. The main block is three bays by four bays, with horizontal board siding and a wrap-around porch.

The front gable contains a 2/2 double hung sash window under the peak with several horizontal rows of diamond shaped decorative wood shingles. Under this is a rectangular projecting bay, two stories high. The entry is off-center and is on the cross gable's eave wall. The door is two over two vertical panels with a six-light transom, and four-pane sidelights. The door has plain architrave trim, and is approached by a flight of steps. The porch extends from the square bay on the facade around to the west elevation. The porch is supported by plain square posts, and there is a railing of plain square balusters.

The west elevation contains a smaller half-gable roof abutting another cross-gable. The wide eave overhang is punctuated by exposed rafter ends. Beneath the window is a horizontal band of molding with narrow vertical slats; this band continues around all elevations. Windows are generally 2/2 double hung sash, without shutters.

The south or rear elevation contains a moderately pitched half gable, three stories high with no windows. To the east of this is a square bay in the corner with windows and a back door, protected by a porch with plain balustrade.

The south porch wraps a short distance around the east elevation, and abuts against a gable bay, which contains three levels of windows. To the north of this is an eave wall.

There are two interior brick chimneys at the ridges, one at the west gable end and one behind the cross gable on the south gable section. The roof is covered with asphalt shingle and the main block of the house rests on a high brick foundation. The porches rest on brick piers with lattice infill. The windows are generally 6/2 double hung sash or 2/2. Exposed rafter ends punctuate the overhanging eaves. All gables exhibit the diamond horizontal decorative siding. There are two different dormers; the one facing north on the cross gable has a shed roof, and the one facing east on the front gable has a hipped roof.

There is one outbuilding in the southeast corner being used as garage. The property is shaded by large trees.

The interior of the house consists of a side hall with a single flight staircase. Most of the original interior details remain, e.g., symmetrical molded trim with corner blocks, chamfered newel posts, decorative mantels and pocket doors. East of the hall is a parlor, connected by a large pocket door to a dining room with corner cabinet in the southeast corner. South of the dining room is a newly renovated kitchen.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#68-33

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histor

Specific dates 1899

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Buck-Catterton house is a good example of Queen Anne transitional style dwelling. It stands on a corner lot, in part of Johnson and Wine's First Addition to Hyattsville, platted in 1882.

This section of Hyattsville extended the boundaries of this still-new suburban town which was becoming a desirable place of residence for commuters to the Capital city. (An 1878 account describes the new town as follows: "Hyattsville, on the Washington Branch of the Baltimore Ohio Railroad, is a beautiful village, tasteful houses in the modern style of architecture, ornamented with gardens and lawns, is largely indebted, for its prosperity, to Christopher C. Hyatt, ...it has gradually increased in beauty and prosperity until it stands as one of the foremost villages between Baltimore and Washington."<sup>1</sup>

The subject house was built by Alonzo M. Buck circa 1899, on an unimproved lot which he purchased in 1897.<sup>2</sup> It exhibits characteristic variations in shape and distinctive patterns in decorative detail. It is distinguished also by its prominent location on a corner lot. The house bears resemblance to those constructed from mail-order plans (cf. P.G. 67-11, -12, -14, -17, -18 and 68-18), and may have been constructed from one of those patterns.

In this century, the Buck-Catterton House was used for many years as a roominghouse. Most of the original interior details remain, such as the chamfered newel posts and pocket doors. The house is now being reconverted to single-family use and the owners plan a complete rehabilitation.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> G.M. Hopkins, Atlas of Prince George's County, 1878.

<sup>2</sup> Prince George's County Deeds, JWB #38:86; JWB #40:288; Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1896-1906; Prince George's County Estate File #2004.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P G #68-33

cf. Chain of Title  
cf. Noted, Item #8

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property 9143 sq. ft.

Lot 70. Part of 69

Quadrangle name Washington East, Section E

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kelly Taube, Intern, and Susan Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian

organization Historic Preservation Commission date July 1987

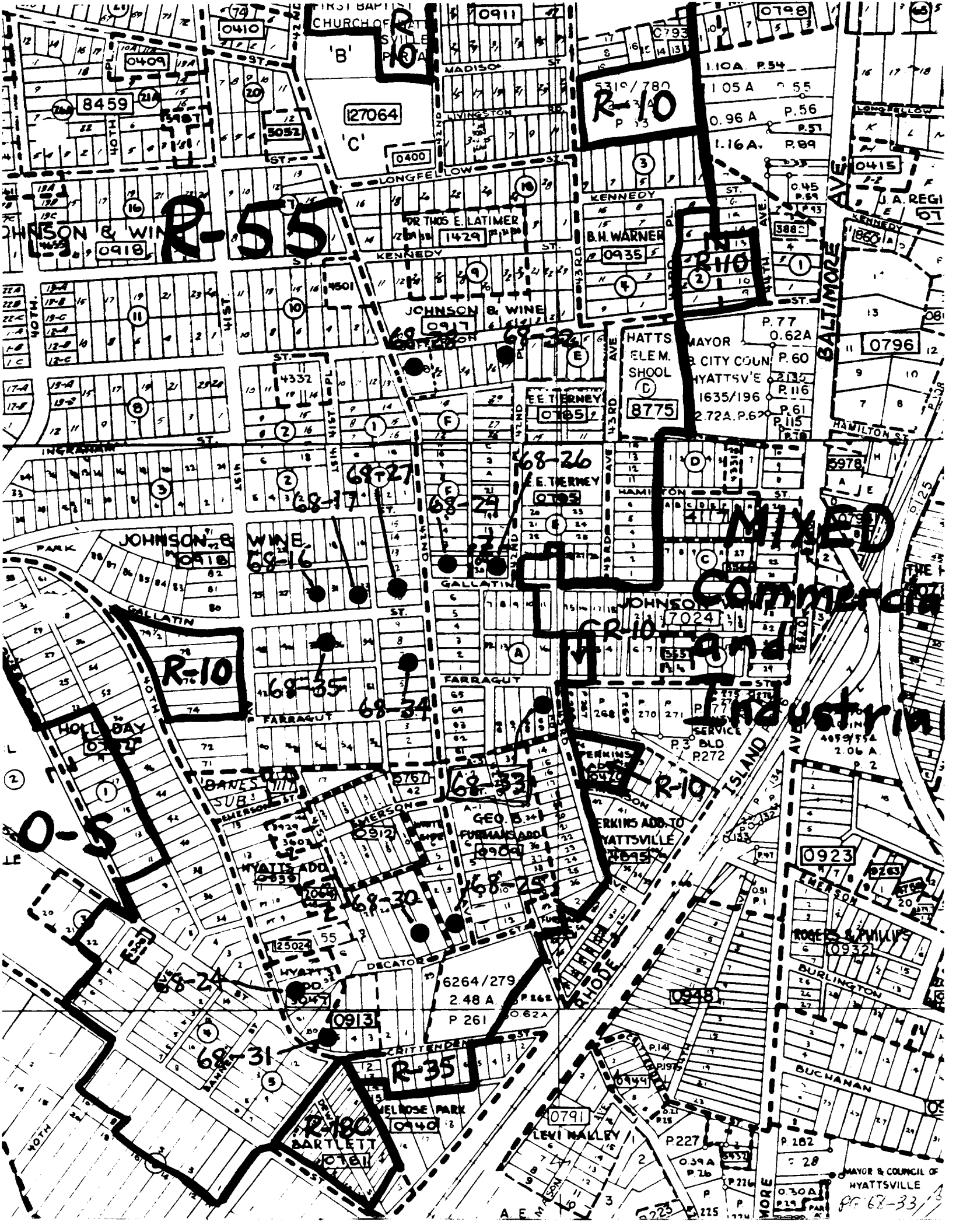
street & number c/o County Planning, M-NCPPC telephone 952-3521

city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438



# WASHINGTON EAST





P.G. #68-33

Buck-Catterton House  
Prince George's County, Maryland  
Susan G. Pearl  
May 1987  
North elevation  
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #68-33

Buck-Catterton House  
Prince George's County, Maryland  
Susan G. Pearl  
May 1987  
Northeast 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #68-33

Buck-Catterton House  
Prince George's County, Maryland  
Susan G. Pearl  
May 1987  
Northwest 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD